

National Republican.

(Entered at the Post-Office at Washington, D. C., as second-class matter.)

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THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN

Published daily (Sundays excepted) by

The National Republican Printing and Publishing Co.,

No. 1208 E Street Northwest.

TERMS:

One copy one year, \$10.00

One copy one month, \$1.00

Address: NATIONAL REPUBLICAN

Washington, D. C.

Largest Legitimate Morning Circulation in the District.

WASHINGTON, MAY 6, 1880.

A LADY'S flanneaux is her red-headed lover.

THE taking off of JOHN KELLY would

probably make TILDEN the happiest man

on this mundane sphere.

THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS were contributed

on Saturday last in Charleston for the

relief of the families of the colored men

who lost their lives in the fire well.

SOME one says "The trouble with Mr.

SHERMAN's candidacy is the fact that he

"isn't strong enough for a prominent can-

didate, and yet is too prominent to be a

"compromise candidate."

THE Atlanta Constitution suggests that

the Federal revenue officers in Georgia are

about to be retired from active political

life, as Commissioner HARTY proposes to

make them warm for the illicit distillers.

THE Louisville Commercial professes to

think that the canvass for General GRANT

is really only a skillful movement for

WASHINGTON. THE Commercial can see as

far through a grindstone as any other man.

THE New York Herald as a newspaper

enterprise is a marvelous success, and it

possesses some remarkable traits in its

discursive powers. It has the ability to

crowd a greater amount of absurdity into the same

space than can be accomplished by any

other journal in the country. Its master

effort in this line was its attempt to

convince Senator CONKLING that he ought to

drop GRANT and go for HAYES.

THE Washington Republican, that has been

for GRANT and a third term ever so many

months, has begun to weaken. It now says if

a majority of the Republican party do not

want GRANT, it will stand with the majority

when it shall have spoken. - *Vicksburg Herald.*

Our Mississippi contemporary is all right

in the above except as to the weakening.

We have been for General GRANT for

reasons sufficient to ourselves since the

question of a Republican candidate for the

Presidency began to bud and blossom. We

stand there now, full in the faith that the

people will confirm our preference. There

is a bare possibility that our choice may

not be respected, and if such a contingency

shall be reached, we are too loyal to the

Republican faith to rebel against the de-

termination of the Republican party, as

every one who knows us can very well un-

derstand. We protest that we have not

"begun to weaken."

THERE is a strange disparity of state-

ment under the consideration of a question

of fact—about which there should be no

serious difficulty—between the Chicago

Tribune, anti-GRANT, and the *Inter-Ocean*,

which sustains his cause. The Tribune

worries through more than a column of its

space to show that General GRANT stands

but little chance of securing the vote of

that State in the National Convention. It

spreads an elaborate table of figures before

its readers, which sums up thirty-seven

counties where delegates have already been

appointed, of which BLAINE has 125,

GRANT 91 and WASHINGTON 7. This is

given as a substantial fact. The *Inter-Ocean*

of the same date brings us the intelligence

that the delegates elected so far in Illinois

stand 141 for GRANT to 74 for BLAINE.

These journals have equal facilities for ar-

riving at the bare fact, and yet in their

representation of the case they are widely

at variance. We give these statements for

record, and must wait two weeks to ascer-

lars for weapons, to be used solely for po-

litical purposes, to overcome their fellow-cit-

izens.

As long as these arms were used to sup-

press Republican meetings General GARY

rejoiced in the eagerness of his followers to

display force in the conduct of elections.

The State was, indeed, "an armed camp,"

and the organization was kept up through

the canvass of Hampton for re-election, even

though he had no competitor.

Since that time, having little Republican

resistance to expend their turbulence upon,

the "rash young men" have turned their

weapons upon each other. In General

GARY's own town of Edgeland a dozen men

have been killed or wounded in the past

year, and a "dearly loved young man" now

lies dying there from a pistol shot received

in dispute about the reception of a colored

man's vote in a village election.

The effect of the training of 1878-79 has

been seen and deplored by all observers.

Well may the Charleston *News and Courier*

say, as it did recently, "The effect of loose

"practices and rioting on the whites is what

"concerns us most. Will they who have

"managed elections in the interest of the

"State retire now and allow elections to be

"free? The demoralization has spread rap-

"idly. Where will it stop?"

JUDG PRESSLEY, of Charleston, S. C.,

has just decided the law prescribing im-

prisonment as a penalty for the non-pay-

ment of the poll-tax to be unconstitutional.

The law was made by the first Democratic

legislature since reconstruction. Fortunately

Republican made the constitution, and

Judge PRESSLEY was bound by its

provisions.

Unwise and ineffectual in principle, the

law was made odious and oppressive by its

administration. The colored men were its

only victims, as they were intended to be.

There are thousands of white men in South

Carolina who have never paid a poll-tax or

any other kind of a tax directly. No one

of these was ever chased to the swamps

and woods to avoid arrest under this law,

as Judge PRESSLEY says many negroes

were. The law was intended to be and

was a part of the Democratic machinery to

keep the negroes in a state of fear and worry.

The prattle of the *News and Courier* about

negroes paying no other tax is unwor-

thy of serious discussion. The laborers

in every country ultimately pay all

taxes, just as the consumer pays all ex-

cises and customs; and the negroes of South

Carolina perform probably five-sixths of the

productive labor of the State. We are glad

to record the fact that Judge PRESSLEY has

decided that under the just provisions of a

Republican constitution an iniquitous Dem-

ocratic law is null and void. That's about

the size of it.

WHAT CONGRESS HAS DONE.

The Congress of the United States—now

under Democratic domination in both

branches—has been in session over five

months, and its record is not illustrious

either for its good intents or for its bene-

ficial results. It has taught the country how

time, talent and money may be frittered

away in frivolousness. The Nation, with its

multitudinous interests of importance, has

looked to this Congress for measures of wis-

dom and beneficence, and has looked in

vain; for down to this time, of more than

five months of meetings and adjournments,

it has accomplished nothing of importance,

nor more than could just as well have been

done in the first sixty days of its session.

The course of this Congress is a marvel to

the country. The people do not under-

stand how it could have been possible for

it to have used up so much time

with such insignificant results. They have

seen it organize, commission and put to

service a number of committees of investiga-

tion for the purpose of ferreting out wrongs

and frauds that needed reforming, but

neither wrongs nor frauds have been dis-

covered that needed reforming, but

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SPECIAL NOTICES.

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